

D. Remarks

The claims are 1-23, 36 and 42-49 and 51-55, with claims 1, 7, 13, 19-21, 36, 40-42, 48, 51 and 54 being independent. Claims 1-22, 36, 40, 41, 54 and 55 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected inventions. Claims 23-35, 37-39 and 50 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 47 has been amended to correct an antecedent basis of a term. The specification has been amended to correct an obvious typographical error. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the present claims is expressly requested.

Initially, as a formal matter, Applicant would like to advise the Examiner that initialed copies of the PTO-1449 forms, which were filed with Information Disclosure Statements on July 18, 2001 and September 14, 2001, have not been returned. Since these Information Disclosure Statements are not in the IFW of the present case, Applicant believes that they were not properly processed by the Patent Office after filing. Accordingly, copies of the above-mentioned Information Disclosure Statements with PTO-1449 forms and the cited documents (excluding U.S. patents) are enclosed. Also, enclosed are copies of return cards for the Information Disclosure Statements, bearing relevant mail room receipt stamps, as prima facie proof of filing. Consideration of the cited information and written confirmation of such consideration are respectfully requested.

Claims 25, 26 and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite.

Claims 25 and 26 have been cancelled. Claim 47 has been amended to correct the antecedent basis of the term "cells". Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 23-25, 27-35, 37-39, 42-45 and 47-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0080712 (Feist).¹ Claims 26 and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious from Feist in view of the alleged admissions in the specification at page 4, line 13. The grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Since claims 23-35, 37-39 and 50 have been cancelled, the rejection of these claims is moot and should be withdrawn. Applicant notes that the cancellation of these claims is without prejudice and was done without acquiescence with the Examiner solely to expedite prosecution.

The remaining claims in the application relate, in pertinent part, to a molded product, which is made of a resin material. A first means, including a vibration source object, and a second means, including a reception object for receiving a signal from the vibration source object, are mounted on the product. Alternatively, this product may hold a rotating member for receiving information from an information source and transferring the information to an information reception object and the reception object for receiving the information from the rotating member on a mount surface, while maintaining an optical positional relationship between the rotating member and the reception object. The damping function objects for damping vibrations generated by the vibration source object are contained in the molded product. In yet another recited structure, a means for transferring an image signal from image creating means and image reception means are

^{1/} Applicant notes that Feist can at most qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), because it was published after the filing date of the subject application.

mounted on the molded product and cells are formed in the molded product to suppress an influence of vibrations on the image reception means.

Feist is directed to methods of retrieving data from storage media.


Applicant respectfully submits that Feist fails to disclose or suggest “a molded product which is made of a resin material and on which first means including a vibration source object and second means including a reception object for receiving a signal from the vibration source object are mounted”, as recited in claim 42 (emphasis added).

Furthermore, Applicant submits that Feist does not disclose or suggest a reception object or reception means mounted on the molded product, as recited in claims 48 and 51, respectively. Accordingly, Feist cannot affect the patentability of the presently claimed invention.

Wherefore, Applicants respectfully request that the claims be allowed and the application be expediently passed to issue.

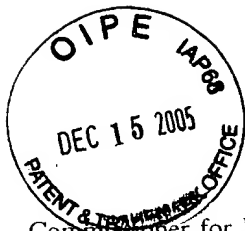
Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date 9, 14, 01
Mo. Day Yr.
Atty. Docket 862.C2261

Application No. 09/878,092

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